

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 10-13, and 15-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 8 and 9 are hereby canceled. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended. Claims 1, 16, and 17 are independent claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the outstanding rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner has allowed claims 16-29, and considers the subject matter of claims 8 and 13 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-5, 10-12, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,994,459 to Wordsell et al.

Without admitting the appropriateness of this rejection, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8. Accordingly, since the Examiner indicated that claim 8 contained allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, claims 2-5, 12, 13, and 15 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1. Furthermore, Applicants have amended claim 10 to depend on claim 1. As such, claims 10 and 11 are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, this rejection has been rendered moot and should, therefore, be withdrawn.

Application No. 10/811,684
Amendment dated June 21, 2007
After Final Office Action of March 21, 2007

Docket No.: H0006251-1055
BSKB No: 2929-0241PUS2

Conclusion

Entry of this Amendment After Final is respectfully requested in that it raises no new issues requiring further search and/or consideration. Instead, the above amendments merely incorporate subject matter, previously indicated by the Examiner as being allowable, into the rejected claims.

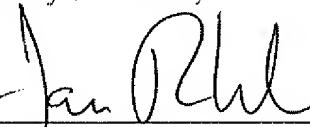
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that any outstanding matters remain in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Jason W. Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305) at the telephone number of the undersigned to discuss the present application in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: June 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By  # 47,305
for D. Richard Anderson
Registration No.: 40,439
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant